UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X Docket#

IN THE MATTER OF: 04-cv-2799 (NG) (VVP)

: 04-cv-5449 (NG) (VVP)

: 04-cv-5564 (NG) (VVP)

: 05-cv-365 (NG) (VVP)

ARAB BANK, PLC., :

U.S. Courthouse Brooklyn, New York

<u>-</u>

: July 8, 2010

TRANSCRIPT OF CIVIL CAUSE FOR CONFERENCE BEFORE THE HONORABLE VIKTOR V. POHORELSKY UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

A P P E A R A N C E S:

For Plaintiffs Linde

<u>and Coulter:</u> Steven Steingard, Esq.

Aaron Schlanger, Esq. Neil Glazer, Esq.

Ari Ungar, Esq.

For Plaintiff Litle, Roth:

Bennett, Weiss & Jesner: Joel Israel, Esq.

For Plaintiffs Almog, Lev

<u>and Afriat-Kurtzer</u>: John Eubanks, Esq.

Vince Parrett, Esq. Ariel Mayrone, Esq.

For Plaintiff Agurenko: Jeff Shooman, Esq.

For the Defendant: Kevin Walsh, Esq.

Steven Young, Esq.

Official Transcriber: Rosalie Lombardi

L.F.

<u>Transcription Service</u>: <u>Transcription Plus II</u>

823 Whittier Avenue

New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040

(516) 358-7352

Proceedings recorded by electronic sound-recording, transcript produced by transcription service

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

2.3

24

25

plaintiffs.

from Motley Rice.

2 Proceedings THE CLERK: Civil Cause for a Status Conference in 04-cv-2799, Linde v. Arab Bank, et al. Will counsel starting with counsel for the plaintiffs please state their appearances one by one, please? MR. PARRETT: Good afternoon, your Honor. This is Vince Parrett from Motley Rice for the Almog Afriat-Kurtzer and Lev plaintiffs. MR. EUBANKS: Also, John Eubanks from Motley Rice on behalf of the Almog Afriat-Kurtzer and Lev MR. MAYRONE: Also Ariel Mayrone (ph.) on behalf of the Almog Afriat-Kurtzer and Lev plaintiffs

MR. ISRAEL: Your Honor, Joel Israel from Sayles Werbner for the Litle, Bennett, Roth, Weiss and Jesner plaintiffs.

MR. SCHLANGER: Aaron Schlanger from Osen, LLC on behalf of the Linde and Coulter plaintiffs. joined by Ari Ungar.

MR. STEINGARD: Also Steven Steingard and Neil Glazer from Kohn, Swift & Graf on behalf of the Linde Coulter plaintiffs.

MR. SHOOMAN: Good afternoon, your Honor. Jeff Shooman, that's S-h-o-o-m-a-n from Stone, Magninini on behalf of the Agurenko plaintiffs.

7 Proceedings 1 discovery are different or not. 2 Let me give you this observation. They are 3 different (in that the primary purpose of a deposition to 4 perpetuate testimony is to present that as evidence at a 5 trial. (The primary purpose of a discovery deposition is) 6 (to (learn) what (the witness') (testimony) (is (going) (to) (be) (at) (trial.) (So (those) (are) (two (different) (types) (of (depositions) 7 8 and the former, the deposition to perpetuate testimony is 9 almost (invariably one (that) (is sought by (the party (that) (is) 10 going (to seek) (to produce (the witness) at (trial) and is a 11 person who is almost always friendly to the party taking 12 the deposition. 13 And that's, of course, distinguished from a 14 deposition for discovery purposes which is almost 15 invariably (taken by the party (that's) adverse (to) (the 16 witness or adverse to the party who is expected to call 17 the witness. And so the depositions are conducted 18 differently (and (they have) -- (since (they have) different) 19 purposes, they necessarily have to be looked at 20 differently. 21 That's not to say that there's anything 22 different about the rules for what's admissible or 23 whether (those depositions) and (how they can be used at) 24 trial. You know, the purpose of the discovery deposition 25 really is to let the parties taking the deposition put

8 Proceedings 1 that party in a position to gather evidence with which to meet (the (testimony) (that) (that) witness (is expected (to give) 2 3 later at trial. 4 And, of course, it seems to me that a party is 5 entitled (to) obtain (that) (kind) (of) (testimony) (from (a) 6 perspective witness before having to confront that witness (in a trial and (in this case, before they have to 7 8 confront that witness in a trial-type setting which is 9 what (the) deposition (to) perpetuate (testimony) is. 10 So the arguments made by the plaintiff in 11 opposition to the defendant's requests here largely miss 12 It's not to -- the arguments that have been the point. 13 made by the plaintiffs really are that -- seem to rest on 14 the notion that -- I mean the arguments focus on the --15 how the depositions can be used at trial and whether they 16 can be used at trial and that's not the issue before the 17 Court. The issue before the Court is whether the 18 defendants are entitled to take some kind of a discovery 19 deposition before they have to confront the witness as 20 the witness will appear at trial. 21 So, you know, I am inclined and I'll hear the 22 plaintiffs further, but [] am inclined to permit the 23 defendants (the opportunity to conduct a discovery-type) 24 deposition (in advance of having to then confront the 25 witness in a trial-type deposition. I will open the

9 Proceedings 1 floor up to the -- let me go a little further here, just 2 to give you a little bit more of my thinking so that you 3 can perhaps frame your argument. 4 The plaintiffs have also -- excuse me, the defendants have also asked for a detailed proffer of what 5 6 the witness (is) going to (say (in) deposition (that) (is) noticed, (the) perpetuation (of) (testimony) deposition (that) 7 8 the plaintiffs have noticed. (And (I (am -- my) thoughts) on 9 (that) (is) (that) while (a) (detailed) (proffer) (may) (not) (be) 10 necessary, in order to streamline the process and in 11 order to take as little time from the witness as possible 12 in order to make both a discovery deposition and then 13 later the perpetuation of testimony deposition go more 14 smoothly, (it) may be useful to have some disclosure 15 greater (than what has been disclosed at least with 16 respect to some of the witnesses. I did read the various 17 witness descriptions (that were appended as an exhibit to 18 one of the letters here. 19 So it does -- it occurs to me that while a 20 detailed proffer of testimony isn't necessarily called 21 (for, that some proffer) of testimony (would be useful) just) 22 to make the whole process move more quickly and from the 23 witness' standpoint, you know, more easily. 24 So anyway, I will let the plaintiffs respond 25 since I am more or less as you can tell inclined to grant